The Wave
Stages 1 and 2 (Rail)

# Vegetation protection and management

November 2026

The Wave – Stages 1 and 2 (Rail) project area includes native forests, woodlands, waterways, wetlands and other habitats.

Some vegetation is protected under national environmental law as threatened ecological communities or threatened plant species. Other native vegetation and local habitats are also considered in project design and construction planning.

## What did the Draft Public Environment Report find?

The Draft Public Environment Report (PER) found that vegetation disturbance can be reduced by refining the areas needed for construction, protecting vegetation being retained and progressively rehabilitating temporary work areas.

Some permanent impacts will remain. Significant impacts on threatened ecological communities and plant species, and the proposed environmental offsets, are explained in the Matters of National Environmental Significance and Environmental offsets fact sheets.

## How impacts will be managed

### Protecting vegetation being retained

Clearing and construction activities will be managed to reduce the risk of injury and disturbance to wildlife. Measures include:

- identifying and mapping vegetation to be retained, clearing limits and areas to be protected
- retaining as much vegetation as practicable through construction planning and using already disturbed areas where possible
- managing erosion, sediment, drainage, weeds and disease-causing organisms to protect adjoining vegetation
- reusing suitable cleared vegetation and habitat materials to support rehabilitation.

### Rehabilitating temporary work areas

Rehabilitation will be tailored to each location, its condition before construction and its intended long-term use. Measures include:

- progressively stabilising and rehabilitating areas once they are no longer needed for construction
- reinstating the shape of the land and drainage, and using planting, natural regrowth, waterway bank restoration or habitat features where appropriate
- using locally appropriate native species and managing soil, weeds and disease-causing organisms
- monitoring vegetation cover, ground stability, native plant condition and new growth, weeds and diseases, and how habitat is functioning, with further work where required.

## What happens next

A Rehabilitation and Revegetation Plan will set out measures for individual locations, the outcomes to be achieved, monitoring requirements and actions to take where rehabilitation needs improvement.

Rehabilitation will continue until the required outcomes for completion and handover are achieved.

## Find out more

Read The Wave – Stages 1 and 2 (Rail) Draft PER for the detailed findings and proposed environmental management measures.

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